

REPORT

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**SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.**

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOVIET COAL INDUSTRY REVIEWS ITS SUCCESSES BEFORE 7 NOVEMBER

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Capital construction has taken on a tremendous scope. The volume of work actually completed in 1949 exceeded the capital investment of 1948 by 17.5 percent, and the capital investment planned for 1950 is to exceed that of 1949 by 29 percent.

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Mechanization of the most important phases of coal mining has increased sharply. Cutting and shooting have been mechanized 98.5 percent, conveying at the mine face 99.4 percent, haulage through the main drifts 97.8 percent, and loading into railroad cars 99.3 percent. As a result of the employment of hundreds of Donbass combines, coal loading at the mine faces has been 16.1 percent mechanized. During 8 months of 1950 the number of coal combines has increased 50 percent.

The number of rock-loading machines in operation has increased 30 percent during 1950, and coal and rock-loading during development work has been mechanized 24 percent. Small electric locomotives are being used extensively to mechanize haulage in intermediate drifts. The number of them in operation increased 64 percent during 1950.

Labor productivity increased 8.7 percent during 1949 and an additional 10.3 percent in 1950. Average earnings of the miner increased 7 percent during 1949 alone, and during 8 months in 1950 they were 5.9 percent higher than during the same period in 1949. Price reductions in foods and industrial goods during 1949 and 1950 have made the increased wages even more significant.

The conversion of Donbass mine faces and mines to the cycle work schedule has opened up new ways of increasing labor productivity and lowering the cost of coal production. In August the production costs of a ton of coal in the Donbass were reduced one ruble 92 kopeks that is, 1 ruble 26 kopeks below the plan. In September production costs were one ruble 25 kopeks below the plan. During September 1950 the coal output plan was fulfilled by all combines of the Donbass.

A number of mines are not fulfilling the plan for coal output, many enterprises are not fulfilling the plan for production costs, and several coal combines are incurring heavy losses. Those functioning worst of all in 1950 were the Karagandaugol', Stalinugol', Sakhalinugol', Vostsibugol', and Sredazugol' combines whose unsatisfactory financial activity is causing the state huge losses.

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